

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

15 October 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Questions Re Status of RFE and RL - Letter of
8 October 1970 from Senator Case to Secretary of State

1. Received a telephone call from [] who told me that Mr. William Miller, Deputy Director, VOA, had called last night and said that a letter from Senator Case to the Secretary of State asking a series of questions about RFE and RL had been forwarded by Mr. Abshire for action by VOA. Since the matter is wholly related to CIA, Mr. Miller is sending it back through legislative channels for transfer to the Agency for action. After discussion, it was suggested that [] recontact Mr. Miller and remind him of the published statements of the Katzenbach Committee in 1967 and the continuing White House and Secretarial level interest in the radios. [] talked to Mr. Miller's office, learned that he had left the city for a week and that the letter had already been transmitted back to the Department.

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2. At noon I received a call from Mr. Marvin Cox, Office of General Counsel, USIA, who called as a followup to [] earlier call to Mr. Miller at VOA. Mr. Cox said that he had talked to Miss Mary Urban of Senator Case's staff during the morning and told her that the Senator's letter of 8 October was being transferred "to another agency" for action. He had also talked to Mr. John Marks of the Senator's staff. They had no objection to the transfer "to another agency." I thanked him for the call, told him I would relay the information and be back in touch with him during the afternoon.

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3. After discussing the matter with [] and separately with [] met with Colonel White who suggested that a call be made to David Abshire

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outlining the current sensitivity of this matter and suggesting that he might want to review it with Mr. Richard Davies, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European Affairs of the Department. Colonel White also noted that final determination might require approval of Under Secretary Johnson.

25X1 4. [] talked to Mr. Abshire relaying the above and requested that a copy of the letter be forwarded for our review.

25X1 [] also indicated that we would be back in touch with Mr. Abshire as soon as we have had a chance to consider the letter.

25X1 5. [] also advised that John Marks of Senator Case's staff made telephone calls during the day to both RFE and RL in New York inquiring about information available on budget and funding of each of the organizations. He indicated that this is a background inquiry and that he does not know what they are looking for, but that he would want only information available in the public domain. Various items of published information will be forwarded by each of the offices.

[]

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Assistant Legislative Counsel

Distribution:

Orig. - Subject
1 - Chrono

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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

October 8, 1970

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ACTION
is assigned to

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The Honorable William P. Rogers
Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 C Street
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In view of discussions now being held on the feasibility of reducing the American presence overseas, I am writing you to enquire into the status of Radio Free Europe (RFE) and Radio Liberty (RL). Specifically, I would be grateful to know:

- 1) Is the U. S. Government involved in either RFE or RL?
- 2) Could the Voice of America assume the functions of either RFE or RL?
- 3) Are any U. S. foreign policy aims served by either RFE or RL?
- 4) Do broadcasts by either RFE or RL hurt the possibilities for better relations with the countries of Eastern Europe?
- 5) Is either RFE or RL scheduled for budget reductions or termination?

Sincerely,

Clifford P. Case
Clifford P. Case
U. S. Senator

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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RS/AN
ANALYSIS BRANCH

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